

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO

ESTRELLA A. MARES,

Plaintiff,

v.

No. CIV 15-0113 WJ/LAM

CAROLYN W. COLVIN, Acting Commissioner
of the Social Security Administration,

Defendant.

ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR ATTORNEY FEES
UNDER THE EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE ACT

THIS MATTER is before the Court on Plaintiff's unopposed *Motion for Approval of Attorney Fees Under the Equal Access to Justice Act* (Doc. 32), filed April 5, 2016, wherein Plaintiffs asks for an award of \$3,872.80 in attorney fees. Having considered the motion, the record in this case, and relevant law, the Court **FINDS** that Plaintiff's motion shall be **GRANTED**.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Plaintiff's unopposed *Motion for Approval of Attorney Fees Under the Equal Access to Justice Act* (Doc. 32) is **GRANTED**, and Plaintiff is authorized to receive **\$3,872.80** for payment to Plaintiff's attorney for services before this Court, as permitted by the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2412, and in accordance with *Manning v. Astrue*, 510 F.3d 1246, 1255 (10th Cir. 2007).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, if Plaintiff's counsel is ultimately granted attorney fees pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 406(b) of the Social Security Act, Plaintiff's attorney shall refund the smaller award to Plaintiff pursuant to *Astrue v. Ratliff*, 560 U.S. 586, 596 n.4 (2010)

(explaining that, if a claimant's counsel is ultimately granted attorney fees under § 406(b) out of the claimant's benefit award, the claimant's attorney must refund to the claimant the amount of the smaller fee).

IT IS SO ORDERED.


LOURDES A. MARTÍNEZ
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE